

*Parturiunt Montes, &c.*

O R,

.4\*\*

*LEWIS and CLEMENT taken in their own Snare.*

A

# S E R M O N

Preach'd in the Parish Church of

St. *JAMES* Clarkenwell,

On *Thursday* February the 17th, 1708.

B E I N G

The Day of *THANKSGIVING*

Appointed by Her *MAJESTY*

F O R T H E

Glorious Successes of the last *CAMPAIGN.*

By D. *PEAD*, Chaplain to his Grace the  
Duke of *NEWCASTLE.*

*Publish'd at the Earnest Desire of the AUDITORY.*

L O N D O N:

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## X P S A L M, 2d Ver. latter Part.

*Let them be taken in the Devices that they  
have imagin'd.*

**T**HIS Psalm bearing no Title, it is difficult positively to assign its Author or Occasion, as for the Nature of it the Reader may easily observe it is *Euctical*. It is a zealous Prayer for the Disappointment and Confusion of the Persecutors of God's Church and People; *Let them be taken in the Devices, &c.*

Let their own Devices and Plots which they form and contrive against others, take and ruin themselves, or as it is the 7 Psa. 15, 16. *Let him fall into the Pit which he maketh for others, let his Mischief return upon his own Head, and his violent Dealing come down upon his Pate, in the Net which he hid privily, let his own Foot be taken.*

Having seen the Scope and Meaning of the Text and knowing that good Men pray not for any thing but what is agreeable to the Will of God, we may hence collect this comfortable Point of Doctrin.

The great and wise God takes a Delight in bringing the Counsel of wicked Tyrants to nought, and not only to blast their Devices, but to make them the Means of their own Destruction.

This Truth is so obvious both in sacred and civil History that it needs but little Proof, Job informs us 10 Job 3. *God will not shine upon the Counsel of the Wicked*, i. e. He will not suffer it to come to Maturity. David teaches us more plainly, 33 Psa. 10. *The Lord bringeth the Counsel of the Heathen to nought: He maketh the Devices of the People to be of none Effect*, whatever Profession they make who strive to turn the World upside down, usurp other's Rights.

Rights, destroy Religion and Liberty, they are in God's Account no better than Heathens, and their Counsels shall speed accordingly: I cannot but judge it both pleasant and encouraging to our Faith to hear some Instances of this Nature, and therefore I proceed.

Thus it befel proud *Pharaoh*, he was fully bent and prepared to pursue *Israel*, he devises accordingly to overtake them, 15 *Exod.* 9. and drive them before him into the Red Sea, imagining that they must either be entangled in the Wilderness, or perish in the Sea, but *ver.* 10. the Lord covered him with that Sea, and he and his, sunk like Lead in those mighty Waters.

Again, *Jabin & Sisera*, 4 *Judg.* 15. God dealt with after the same Manner, so likewise with proud *Senacherib* who concluded upon Victory from the Number and Strength of his Army, but was cut off by an Angel, and so his Numbers did but increase his Shame.

Pope *Alexander* the sixth and his Son *Borgia* prepared Poyson'd Wine to destroy some *Italian Princes* whom they had invited to a Banquet; by this Device they imagined to get Possession of their Dominions, but were taken by the same Device themselves, for by a Mistake they drank what they had so craftily brewed for others.

Again, *Maxentius* perish'd by the deceitful Bridge, which he had devis'd for *Constantine*. Thus very often does it please God to ensnare wicked Men in the Work of their own Hands, and to catch them in the Trap they laid for others. The like unto which hath occasioned this Days publick Rejoicing.

I shall now present you with the Character of that cruel Oppressor, against whom the Psalmist makes this Complaint, and imprecates this heavy Judgment: In the 9th Psal. 18. God had promis'd to work a Work of this Nature, saying, *The Needy shall not always be forgotten, the Patient abiding of the Meek shall not perish for ever*, hereupon the Psalmist in this Psalm

1st Verse humbly expostulates with God, why he so long deferr'd the Performance of this Promise, pleading



after this Manner *Why standest thou so far off O Lord*  
*Why hidest thou thy self in time of Trouble?* And in the fol-  
 lowing Verses to expedite the Performance, as *Hezekiah*  
 in a Parallel Case *2 Kings* 19. 4. to move God to  
 speedier Relief spread *Rabshakeh's* insulting Letter before  
 him, so to the same Purpose the *Psalmist* presents God  
 with a large Character of the Oppressor and his abomi-  
 nable Doings:

As Ver. 2d *The Wicked in his Pride does persecute the Poor*  
*i. e.* He over runs Persons and Places without any just  
 Cause or Provocation, but meerly because they are poor  
 and he is proud; he perceives they are too weak to  
 withstand his Strength, and therefore condemns them  
 to Destruction and Slaughter. What might move ano-  
 ther to Pity and Protection animates him to Fury and  
 Rage. He thrusts his quiet Neighbours out of their  
 Possessions, he wheedles some out of their Principalities  
 and justles others out of their Thrones, his Imaginati-  
 on being only to enlarge his own Dominions, gain an  
 Universal Monarchy, and make his Children Princes  
 in all Lands.

Ver. 3d *He boasteth of his Heart's desire: i. e.* He is so  
 unmeasurably proud that when his most villanous  
 Designs prosper he boasts where he should blush, he  
 boasts as if his Success were the undoubted Effects of  
 Heaven's Kindness to him, nay he has the Confidence  
 to sing *Te Deum* whereby he causes the Name of God  
 to be blasphem'd, while he represents him as a Fa-  
 vourer of his wicked and bloody Devices;

Ver. 4th *He seeks not after God*, or as the King's Tran-  
 slation reads it, he careth not for God, he is so swell'd  
 with Pride that it concerns him not whether the Ma-  
 jesty of Heaven be pleas'd or displeas'd, so his own be-  
 satisfied, he seeks not after God, he consults not the  
 Oracle of his Word, whether what he has devis'd be  
 fit or no, God is so far from all his Thoughts that  
 he presides over none, he neither looks up for Di-  
 rection or Forgiveness, his proud Heart believes no  
 Superior, and for this Reason contains himself within



no Bounds of Religion, Honour, or Conscience; he is self confident and dotes on his own Sufficiency, God is neither in his Heart or Head, Words or Works, God is not in all his Thoughts for it is the least of his Thoughts that there is a God that judgeth the Earth;

Ver. 5th *Thy Judgments are far above out of his Sight therefore his Ways are always greivous and therefore desieth all his Enemies.*

'The God of this World has so blinded his Eyes that he hath not the least Glimpse of those Judgments which remain for the Ungodly, and this is the Cause that he is holden with such Pride, that tho' it be grievous to others yet he can with the greatest Ease and Confidence break thro' all Promises, Covenants, Obligations, and Oaths, nay even Oaths which he enters into with the greatest Solemnity at God's Altar, he keeps not in Memory what God hath done to other *Persecutors*, and *Tyrants*, (tho' these have been so terrible that they ought to be had in Remembrance) as for his Enemies he puffeth at them, he looks upon his Enemies no better than such as he can as easily blow away with a Puff of his Mouth, as the Wind blows Leaves.

Ver. 6th He concludes in the Cabinet of his proud Heart that *he shall never be moved.*

'What he and his *Epicene Council* have projected, he concludes to be beyond the Power of the Almighty's blasting; he proceeds from one *Degree of Wickedness* to another not suspecting he can be shock'd, or ever see a Cloud upon his present Prosperity, according to his own Imagination his Mountain is so strong it can never be moved nor the least Harm happen unto him:

Ver. 7, 8 He accustoms himself to Deceit and Fraud, lying in wait in secret Places, by unthought of Stratagems to ensnare the Innocent and his Mouth is full of cursing.

'This is his Master-Piece, by fair but false Promises to draw the Credulous into his Net, and then like a Lion to tear them in Pieces, and if ever his Sincerity be suspected, he is ready with most dreadful Imprecations

tions upon himself and his Posterity to preserve his Credit.

This is the true Character, and if any hearing this shall yet put the *Eunuch's* Question, of whom speaketh the *Psalmist* thus? I shall answer in the Words of *Jeh* you know the Man; *Hercules* was not more distinguishable from others by the Largeness of his Foot, than the *Tyrant of France* is from all other *Tyrants* by the Largeness of his Ambition and the Craft and Bloodiness of his Proceedings.

Having thus plainly discovered who the Oppressor is I now proceed to shew how God hath taken him in his own Devices, and has brought the Misery he imagin'd for others upon his own Head:

Our Lord told his Disciples, 13 *Matt.* 17. that they were greatly honour'd in that what many Prophets and righteous Persons desire to see, and were not permitted, viz. the Son of God Incarnate, was conceded to them, and without Doubt it is a signal Honour which God hath vouchsafed our *Gracious Queen* that she has seen her great Adversary more entangled this last Campaign, than any of her *Predecessors*.

To you also I must believe it to be cause of great Rejoicing, for what Comfort like to that of having our Prayers heard? You cannot but remember we have constantly pray'd that *God would either turn the Hearts, or disappoint the Counsels of our Enemies*; and now I intend you shall be Witnesses how far God hath heard our Prayers.

I shall briefly speak to some Things by way of Introduction: The French King hath occasion'd this long and tedious War which has affected all *Europe* more or less, in order to attain an *Universal Monarchy*, by his flattering Intrigues he drew *Bavaria*, *Colen* and *Mantua* to be Confederates with him, nay it may reasonably be thought most if not all of the *Italian* Princes thro' Fear of him, or Bigotry to their Religion had conspir'd with him, and so had made it a Religious War had not the happy taking of *Port-Mahon* restrain'd them.

Amongst others I must not forget the Duke of Savoy (in whose History future Ages will discover the Politics and Disappointments of France) that Prince was drawn into the Combination by marrying his Daughters into the House of Bourbon, this Device was deeply laid, but soon overturn'd by the Wisdom of God in granting a Son to that Duke.

The Pope also (if not too forward of his own Accord) yet was easily persuaded to unite in the Design, tho' it must be own'd the Craft was great to prevail with him who could not soon erase out of Memory the Insults of Lewis upon his Predecessor Pope Innocent the XI. by his Ambassadour the Marquis De Levaradin : Rome in its Name, Religion, Ceremonies and all Actions is Mystical, but how difficult is it to fathom the Depth of this Mystery? Time has been that for less Provocations Emperours have been brought to severest Penance, *Oh quantum mutatus ab illo*, how much is the present Pope alter'd from his Predecessors? Shall we say this was done that Clement might show himself *Virum sui nominis*. A Man whose Name and Disposition mutually agree, tho' he be not altogether, yet he is so much a Christian, that he will do good to them that despitefully use him. I can hardly assent that his Name should have such Influence over him, when he nameth the Name of Christ as well as Clement, and yet no more departeth from Iniquity than any that went before him.

To say he was turn'd Heretick was to run the Hazard of the Inquisition, yet he acts by an old Heretical Principle, *Careless your Enemies, but neglect your Friends*.

I rather fear the Occasion of this is, that to bloody minded Persons there can be no greater Charm than to join in a bloody Action, such as murdering Christ, or persecuting his Members, this atones for all past Affronts and Indignities, this knits the Bond of Amity between Pilate and Herod, and this made Clement and Lewis Friends, such Friends that his Holiness conniv'd at the Breaking of the Treaty relating to the Spanish Monarchy, a Treaty founded on weighty Reasons, a Treaty according to the Belief of all Parties therein concern'd,



cern'd, confirm'd in the *Real Presence of the Saviour of the World*, for this *Treaty* was not only made at the *Altar*, but solemnly Ratify'd by receiving the *Sacrament*; in this manner the *French King* disclaim'd for himself and his Posterity the *Spanish Succession*, yet has he since thrust his *Grandson* into that *Throne*; who but he, could break thro' such *Obligations*? And who should countenance his so doing but *Christ's Vicar*? Had the *Pope* had no *Zeal for God*, or the *Honour of his Church* (as who so hereafter reads the *History* will scarce believe he had) yet had he consider'd his own *Character*, he could not readily have yielded to so great *Perjury*, and so fraudulent an *Usurpation*, yet he did, by granting the *Title of Catholick King* to the *Duke of Anjou*; what is this less than establishing *Wickedness* by a *Law*, when the *Perjury of France* is confirm'd by the *Authority of Rome*? We shall by and by see that *Vengeance* overtook him, and that he gain'd no more by this wicked *Device* than the *Eagle* got by stealing the *Sacrifice*, who therewith carry'd a *Coal* to consume his own *Nest*.

These Things premis'd, I come now to speak to some *Particular Transactions* of the last *Campaign*, and to show that our *Enemy* was taken in the *Devices* which he himself had imagin'd.

Early the last Year the *French King* in order as he projected, to *Revenge* the *Insult* which the *Allies* had made upon *Thouloun*, and to facilitate his future *Designs*, contriv'd the *Invading of Scotland*, he had been so solicitous and careful in every *Circumstance* of that *Grand Affair*, that his *Ministers* at the *Court of Rome* assur'd his *Holiness* such *Measures* were taken as were not possible to be defeated: They had numbers of *Friends* in *Scotland* ready to assist them, and as for the *English* care had been taken by his *Holiness's* own *Tools* (the *Jesuits*) to amuse them with false *Prophets* and pretended *Miracles*. Hereupon the *Holy Father* cheerfully demonstrated his *Faith*, his *Concern*, and his *Approbation* by a free *Contribution* of a vast *Sum of Money* together with his *Benediction*, moreover he order'd *Publick Prayers* and *Processions* at which he assisted in *Person* to ob-

tain Favour and Success from *Heaven*; but here we will believe *David* before *Clement*, who says *God heareth not Sinners*, and so we have found it; nay he expos'd the *Host* for forty Days together, and why forty Days? Was it because *Aaron*, I mean *Rome's* High Priest was as Ambitious to spend as much Time in breaking the last as *Moses* spent in receiving the whole Ten Commandments, or was the Triple Crown asham'd to be out done in Zeal by the Prince of Darkness, and thereupon resolv'd to allow as much Time as he, in tempting the King of Righteousness to consent to the unjust Usurpations of *France*? After this, the French King Arms the Pretender with a Sword, and takes his final Leave of him, declaring *he hop'd to see him no more*; and if we consider the Ease it would have been to his *Treasury*, and the great Occasion he has for Money other-ways, I think we may believe him in this Particular; the Pretender straight bids adieu to the Court, he betakes himself to the Task the Tyrant had set him, Heaven first appear'd against him at his setting out from Court, for the Wheels of his Chaize brake, so that he was necessitated to reach *Dunkirk* by Post Horses to his great Fatigue, being arriv'd, his formidable Army was soon ship'd, and now God put another Stop in his Way, for at his coming out of Harbour news was brought that the *English Fleet* lay ready expecting him at *Graveling*, hereupon all were unship'd again, and the better to conceal this Fear, it was given out the Pretender was sick of the Measles, however within two Days an Express came from *Versailles* that sick or well they must Re-embark, *They indeed must go whom the Devil drives*, an old Proverb saith.

Thus I have laid before you their Devices, the French King found Men, Ships and Arms; the Pope, Money, Prayers, and his Blessing, and all this to ruin us: Now see how Heaven took them in their own Devices. It is evident they took false Measures, for they were ignorant of our Naval Strength and Preparation at that Juncture; they had a very false Opinion of the Union, nor did they consider the Sitting of the *British Parliament* at that time, but to pass by these and other Circumstances of the like Nature,

Nature, and to observe the Hand of God, the Wind within four Hours after they were got out chang'd upon them, by which Means though they made the best of their way they could, yet did they miss their intended Port, our Fleet soon came up with them, and then their *Admiral Forbin* thought it the wisest way to command all Lights to be put out, that they might steal away in the Dark, thus they that came out with Hopes of conquering a Kingdom, rather than face our Fleet, chose to run the Hazard of falling upon Rocks, Shelves or Quickfands. In short, besides the Loss of one *Capital Ship*, or more, what return'd to *Dunkirk*, were miserably shatter'd and torn, the Men were so affrighted, they look'd more like drown'd *Rats* than *Conquerors*; where Men begin in too great *Confidence*, no Wonder, God should make them end in *Confusion*.

Now see how the *Pope* was also taken in these Devices at the Importunity of our *Queen*, his Territories were invaded by the Germans, who took *Commachio* and other Places from him, rais'd vast *Contributions* upon his Subjects; now who that sees or hears this and will not say, this hath God done, and we see there is a God that judgeth in the Earth, and he delights in taking wicked Men in the Devices they have imagined, the War that the *Pope* drove into *Scotland* by the Breath of his *Prayers* and *Benediction* rages in his own Bowels, comes home to his own Doors, as God serv'd *Senacherib*, 2 *Kings* 19, 37. So he serv'd the *Pope*, that Bramble of Destruction, for so is his Name by *Interpretation*, had been infesting harmless *Israel*, God slew his Army, and when he had chas'd him Home, permitted him to fall by the Hand of his own Son. In like manner he that was so instrumental in troubling our *Israel*, God has made to drink of the Cup that he brewed for us, and that which makes it the bitterer, it is by the Hand of his own Children the *Imperialists* who put *Rome* and the *Colledge* of *Cardinals* under a pannick Fear, and have since forc'd the *Holy Father* to buy his Peace at the Charge of 60000 *Pistols*; so that the Device has been very chargeable as well as dangerous to the *Devisors*.

Next



Next we consider our Enemies Devices, and the Success of them at *Audenard*. They had this Year a numerous Army, as if resolv'd upon fighting, their *General Vendosme* was as pleasing to the Army as the King, who declared he had call'd him from *Italy* to *Flanders* in hopes by his *Conduct* to revive that *Resolution* and *daring Spirit* which he fancied was natural to the *French*, but had of late deserted his Souldiers; this Army was farther encouraged by the Presence of two *Princes* of the *Blood*, all this we should think would make the rankest *Cowards* fight, for when the *Princes* of the *Blood* are in the Army, then *Un coup d' Eclat*, an illustrious Stroke is expected: Yet no sooner did they hear the *Allies* were advancing, but they with great Precipitation decamp'd, they skipp'd up and down changing Places as if their Business had been not to fight, but to teach our Men a new *Galliard*: Might I speak to them in the Expostulation of *David* to the *Sea* and the *River Jordan* 114 Psal. 5. What ailed the *French*, the *Spaniards*, the *Swiss*, the *Walloons* and the *Bavarians* to fly so fast? And so often? Where is the *Courage*, the *Bravery*, the *Intrepidity* and *Vigour* your great *Monarch* expects from you? What ailed *Burgundy*, *Berry*, *Bavaria*, *Vendosme*, and *Bouffleurs* to be driven back? Have you forgot the *noble Blood* that fills your *Veins*? Where are your *Lion-like* Hearts that you run when your Enemies see you? How glorious will this be in *History*? But if the *Fear* of great *Marlborough* has fix'd Wings to your Feet, and you cannot but fly, yet where is the *Conduct* expected in such *renown'd* *Generals*, that having provided for your *Personal Safety*, you have no better consulted the *Retreat* of your trembling Army? But I shall leave them in their Fears, and return to give you a full Account of this Action at *Audenard*.

The *French* had got thither before us, but instead of laying Siege thereto, they prudently provided for their *Retreat*, in case the *Allies* should hear where they were, and therefore by sly Tricks and cunning Devices some of the *Inhabitants* of *Ghent* and *Bruges* were corrupted and brought over to receive them. In permitting this Device to succeed, *Providence* was very merciful, or otherwise

wise scarce a Remnant of their Army had escap'd, the Duke of *Marlborough* having got Intelligence of this flitting Army, resolves once more to follow, hoping they would abide his Coming; and having sent Major General *Cadogan* before to lay Bridges over the *Scheld*, he caused his Army to march with all Expedition. That General executed his Commission, and no sooner had he accomplish'd, it but understanding two *French Brigadiers* were posted at the Village of *Eyne* in order to break them and cut off that Part of the Army which had already past over, these he attack'd and routed. None can condemn this Device of the Enemy; but it came to Nought, in that it was neither undertaken in proper time, nor with sufficient Strength, and all this the Enemy pretend to excuse by confessing there was not a right Understanding between the Princes and *Vendosme*. If the World were as ready to believe, as the *French* to feign, Truth would quickly leave us, for what likelihood is there that the Generals should be other than *Unanimous*, when what was proper to be done in that *Juncture*, could not be unknown to the rawest Souldier? There was no Choice, either that *Detachment* and the *Bridges* they had laid must instantly be destroyed, or else they must prepare to fight the Army of the *Allies* which was advancing, the latter they were conscious, their Fear was too great to undertake, therefore the former they should have done: I cannot think they were consenting to the Passage of the *Allies* over those Bridges, because Count *Tallard* had paid so dear for the like Folly: But be it as they give it out, or as we suspect, their Cowardise and Fear (for they continually have declin'd fighting, though fair Opportunities and great Advantages have invited them) Yet, *Ecce digitus Dei!* Their Device was to get first to *Audenard*, this they did, and herein were they taken, for their Brigades were attack'd with such Courage and bravery, that Part being slain, the rest threw down their Arms, nay, a whole *Brigade* with the *Brigadeir* that commanded them, surrender'd, and a Squadron of our *Vanguard*, which by this time was come up, attack'd

with

with like Success, the Enemies Horse posted behind the Village of *Eyne*, and routed them also.

Both these Skirmishes pass'd in Sight of the *French Army*, so that, as much as they desired to be out of our reach yet the small Remains of their Honour compell'd them to a Stand, at which time they were not only superior in Number, but also so advantageously posted, that, in some Places they had Hedges and Ditches to cover them, and in others they were secur'd by *Defiles*, so that, it was great Labour for ours to come at them, however our Men cheerfully dispens'd with all Difficulties, despis'd all Dangers, and set on them with that *Courage* and *Resolution* that they cut off great Numbers, and forc'd greater to beg Quarter;

By their own *Confession* 40 of their best *Regiments* were so broken, that, what were not kill'd were wounded or taken Prisoners; their two best *Regiments* of *Switzers* were entirely routed, and most of their Officers kill'd or wounded, of four *Battallions* of the *King's Regiments* two were kill'd, wounded, and taken Prisoners. The *Regiments* of *Chevalier De Roban* were cut off, and that of *Burgundy* reduc'd, as 'twere to an Handful, there were 4000 slain, 3000 wounded, and 8000 taken Prisoners, and had it not been for the Favour of the Night they might all have fared alike.

When the old *Tyrant* heard the News of this *Disappointment* his Speech was so overcome by his *Passion*, that he cou'd say no more than this. *What again without Success!* So that he now saw himself taken in the Devices he had imagin'd.

The next Undertaking was a Device of the Enemies to surprize a *Convoy* of ours coming from *Ostend*, this Design was both proper and seasonable, proper in that the Duke of *Vendosme* had by a Letter to the *French King* engaged his *Honour* that the *Allies* should hold no longer *Communication* with that Place, seasonable for upon that *Convoy* the *Seige* of *Lisle* did greatly depend; their Way also to effect this *Design* seem'd reasonable, for on one Hand the *Dikes* were cut in order to drown us  
and



and Count *La Mothe* was provided on the other Hand to cut off what escap'd; his Strength was sufficient, for whereas *Major General Webb* who guarded the Convoy had but between 6 and 7000, *La Mothe* had between 23 and 24000; besides they were so well provided, that they had 19 Cannon, whereof 9 were of *Triple Bore*: Yet here also were the Enemies taken in their own Devices, for by God's Blessing upon the Courage and Conduct of *Major General Webb* the Enemy lost between 3 and 4000 Men and were put into such Consternation that the remaining 20000 thought it best to take to their Heels, leaving their Cannon behind them, nor daring to fetch them upon second Thoughts, till they had Intelligence *General Webb* was gone by. Here it was, and upon this memorable Occasion the French King declar'd he was now satisfy'd, that neither his Generals or Troops were good for any thing, and to speak the Truth, when were they since Pistols used to prepare their Way? The best that could be said of them was *primus impetus Gallorum*, &c. Their first onset was full of Fire, while transported with Hope and Fear they may seem to exceed Men, but where they meet with resolute Enemies they flag, and those two Passions operate as contrary to their Nature, as those Men are to what they profess, for Hope, tho' lighter and cheerfuller Subsidies, and Fear the colder and heavier gains the Ascendant, and so they quickly became weaker than Women; but at this Time when *Hannibal ad portas*, when the War was brought within fourscore Miles of Paris, and their Monarch so little concern'd as not to have the Heart to encourage his Army with his Presence, what Wonder was it to see them so dispirited; for *Regis ab exemplo*, is as true in France as elsewhere. His Friends at Rome say of him *Sine mente Regit*, he reigns without Understanding, what Wonder then that his Army *pugnat sine Animo*, Fight without Understanding, nay have more Understanding than to Fight at all.

We may add, had, as their King vainly speaks, (but they are but Words) Resolution and Spirit been Natural to the French Nation, yet since their King was now chiefly guided

guided by *Feminine* Counsels, it was not likely his Souldiers Hearts should be *Masculine*.

We have yet another Instance of God's Goodness to us, in disappointing the *Devices* of our Enemies; afraid they were to engage us, yet loath we should take their Famous *City of Lisle*, seeing therefore they could not intercept our *Convoy* and so force us to break up the Siege, they resolve upon laying Siege to *Brussels*, hoping hereby to retard our Siege, so long at least as the Coldness and Unseasonableness of the Weather might force the *Allies* to abandon it.

This Project was entrusted to the Care of the *Duke of Bavaria* by Order of the *French King* and *Monsieur Chamillard* who communicated it, gave him to understand, that hereupon the *King* built his Hopes of recovering the Honour lost in the foregoing *Campaigns*; he also assur'd the *Duke* that the *Scheld* (whence only any Interruption could be suspected) should be carefully and sufficiently guarded against the Enemy; what greater Incentives could be offer'd to *Bavaria's* Courage? His Blood undoubtedly grew warm upon the first Information, and he could not but grow proud of an Opportunity so fair to rivet himself in the *French King's* Favour, to retrieve the Reputation he lost at *Blenheim* and *Ramillies*, as also the Love and Honour of the *Brussellians*. He accordingly with the utmost Diligence and Expedition approaches the *City*, lays close Siege to it, and begun with great Fury to storm it, and made such Progress, that he signify'd to the *Governour*, that in case he did not immediately surrender, neither he nor the *Garison* should be admitted to *Capitulate*, and that there was no possibility for him to escape; These Menaces daunted not that *General*, but still he resolv'd to acquit himself with Honour and maintain his Post to the last Extremity; the *Duke of Marlborough* was timely advis'd of this Distress, and resolv'd to bring them timely Succour, he was not ignorant that the *French* had been three Months in casting up Trenches upon the *Scheld* to prevent his Passage, he also knew that they had built themselves *Barracks* as Men resolv'd to stand by what they had undertaken, and that they

they had a *Damm* whereby to drown their Enemies when Opportunity should present, yet the noble *Duke of Marlborough* like a second *Cesar* persists in his Resolutions, *Brussels* shall be reliev'd, and that he will either find or make a Way, and so marches to the Bank of the *Scheld*, where he soon found that God was with him, for the *Damm* and their Hearts gave way together, for seeing the *Damm* did not, they dar'd not adventure to stop his March, but fled, deserting their *Barracks* and *Trenches*, and no doubt their Flight was with *Advice*, in that they had sent their *Artillery* away the Night before: The Passage thus open'd, the Army advanc'd, of which, as soon as *Bavaria* had Notice, he accounted it his best Policy to fly also, and that he did with so great *Precipitation* as to leave behind him 800 Sick and Wounded, 12 Cannon, 4 Mortar-Pieces, 3 Waggon's loaded with Powder, the *Baggage* of his Army, and his own *Equipage*. And thus they gave *Lisle* for lost, which was quickly after taken in the Sight of the *French Army*, and soon after *Ghent* and *Bruges* fell into our Hands, oh the wonderful Goodness of God! he was pleas'd to lengthen the Summer and keep back the pinching cold of Winter that we might have sufficient time to redeem *Lisle* out of Slavery, and when he was pleas'd to shut up Summer he caus'd these Cities to open their Gates that our victorious Army might not suffer by continuing in the Field. So that all that can be said of the *French Army* this last Campaign is *Parturiunt Montes*: They conceived wonderful *Imaginations* but God denied them Strength to bring forth. There is yet one Device remaining, and that was the Sin of the Mother, and we believe in time that will be the Ruin of the Son: for God seldom raiseth up a *Pharaoh* but it is to get himself Honour upon him, and we know that he delighteth to take wicked Men in their own Devices.

Thus have we seen God's wonderful loving Kindness to us, and our *Allies*, oh that we were wise to consider this so as to love and fear the Lord our God with all our Hearts, than need we not fear what *France*, *Rome* or *Hell* can do unto us.

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